



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 85566B
31 May 2019

MUCKROCK
DEPT MR 28522
411A HIGHLAND AVE
SOMERVILLE MA 02144-2516

Dear Mr. Best:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 20 October 2016 for records relating to former Director of NSA LTG William E. Odom, specifically "personnel documents and materials, including personality files, applications, papers regarding promotions, commendations, or criticisms, as well as security checks and any Inspector General reports relating to LTG Odom." A copy of your request is enclosed.

Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA. Five documents (122 pages) responsive to your request have been reviewed by this Agency as required by the FOIA.

This Agency is authorized by various statutes to protect certain information concerning its activities. We have determined that such information exists throughout these documents. Accordingly, these documents are exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). No portion of the information is reasonably segregable.

In addition, personal information regarding several individuals appears throughout the five documents. Therefore, they are also withheld in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you request against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

You may appeal this decision. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below. NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving any appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

- The appeal must be sent via U.S. postal mail, fax, or electronic delivery (e-mail) and addressed to:

NSA FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road STE 6932
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932

The facsimile number is 443-479-3612.

The appropriate email address to submit an appeal is FOIARSC@nsa.gov.

- It must be postmarked or delivered electronically no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Decisions appealed after 90 days will not be addressed.
- Please include the case number provided above.
- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial of requested information was unwarranted.

You may also contact our FOIA Public Liaison at foialo@nsa.gov for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Rd. - OGIS
College Park, MD 20740
ogis@nara.gov
877-684-6448
(Fax) 202-741-5769

Sincerely,



JOHN R. CHAPMAN
Chief, FOIA/PA Office
NSA Initial Denial Authority

Encl:
a/s

Date : Sep 27, 2016 17:02 GMT
To : 14434793612
From : fax@requests.muckrock.com
Subject: MR#28522-287717 - Freedom of Information Request: William Odom NSA

September 27, 2016
National Security Agency
National Security Agency
Attn: FOIA/PA Office (DJP4)
9800 Savage Road, Suite 6248
Ft. George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act. I hereby request the following records:

William Eldridge Odom (June 23, 1932 - May 30, 2008) was a retired U.S. Army 3-star general, and former Director of the NSA under President Ronald Reagan, which culminated a 31-year career in military intelligence, mainly specializing in matters relating to the Soviet Union. After his retirement from the military, he became a think tank policy expert and a university professor and became known for his outspoken criticism of the Iraq War and warrantless wiretapping of American citizens. He died of an apparent heart attack at his vacation home in Lincoln, Vermont. His death has been widely reported.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/05/31/AR2008053102193.html>

I am a member of the news media and request classification as such. I have previously written about the Bureau for AND Magazine, MuckRock and Glomar Disclosure. My articles have been widely read, with some reaching over 100,000 readers. As such, as I have a reasonable expectation of publication and my editorial and writing skills are well established.

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Michael Best

Filed via MuckRock.com
E-mail (Preferred): 28522-33909711@requests.muckrock.com

For mailed responses, please address (see note):
MuckRock
DEPT MR 28522
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request is not filed by a MuckRock staff member, but is being sent through MuckRock by the above in order to better track, share, and manage public records requests. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name

rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.
